Message Text

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ACTION L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2064

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY HELSNKI

AMEMBSSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION USBERLIH UNN

USMISSION NATO

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CGEN, PL, GE, US

SUBJECT: US/GDR CONSULAR CONVENTION NEGOTIATIONS:

POLISH PROBING ON NATIONALITY

1. AT A RECENT SOCIAL EVENT GIVEN BY AN FRG

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIN OFFICER MIECZYSLAW GLANC,
POLISH EMBASSY COUNSELOR FOR CONSULAR AFFAIRS, ASKED AN
EMBASSY OFFICER WHY THE U.S. WAS" HAVING TROUBLE WITH A
NATIONALITY DEFINITION" IN CONCLUDING A CONSULAR CONVENTION
WITH THE GDR. AFTER LISTENING TO AN EXPLANATION OF THE
U.S. POSITION ON THIS QUESTION, GLANC RESPONDED BY FIRST
NOTING THAT, AS CONSULAR RELATIONS BETWEEN SOCIALIST
STATES HAD A DIFFERENT CHARACTER FROM THOSE BETWEEN OR
INVOLVING NON-SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, A NATIONALITY CLAUSE
WAS NOT ESSENTIAL" IN CONSULAR CONVENTIONS BETWEEN
SOCIALIST STATES. HE THEN WONDERED WHY THE U.S. CONTINUED
TO HAVE PROBLEMS SINCE "THE CAPITALIST COUNTRIES" SUCH

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AS FINLAND AND AUSTRIA HAD ACCEPTED SUCH A CLAUSE. THE

U.K. HAD WORKED OUT "A LETTER" AS PART OF THE SOLUTION TO THIS ISSUES, "AND THE FRENCH WILL PROBABLY CONCLUDE SOMETHING THIS WEEK". EMBOFF MERELY REPEATED THE U.S. POSITION SEVERAL TIMES AND ENDED BY SAYING THAT WE WOULD NOT ACCEPT A NATIONALIY DEFINITION.

2. COMMENT: GLANC, WHO ARRIVED IN BERLIN ABOUT FOUR MONTHS AGO, KNEW HIS BRIEF WELL AND PRESSED HARD ON NATIONALITY. ALTHOUGH OTHER WARSAW PACT DIPLOMATS HERE HAVE DELICATELY PROBED TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE U.S. POSITION ON NATIONALITY IS HOLDING, THIS IS THE FIRST TIMEONE OF THEM HAS SUPPORTED THE GDR POSITION. HE DID NOT DEAL WITH THE GDR'S POLITICAL MOTIVATION BEHIND ITS DEMAND FOR A NATIONALITY DEFINITION. HE SEEMED TO BE SAYING THATWESTERN SOLIDARITY ON THIS QUESTION HAD DISAPPEARED AND THE U.S. WAS IN DANGER OF BEING LEFT OUT IN THE COLD.GROVE

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